

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION:

In accordance with the foregoing, claim 8 has been cancelled, and claim 9 has been rewritten in independent form. No new claims have been added. No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 6, 9-10, 12-18, and 39 are pending and under consideration.

In the Office Action at page 3, item 5, the Examiner indicated that claims 1, 2, 6, 10, 13-18, and 39 are allowed, and that claims 9 & 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants respectfully submit that since claim 8 has been cancelled, claim 9 was rewritten in independent form, and claim 12 depends from claim 9, claims 9 and 12 are now allowable, and the application is in condition for allowance.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102:

In the Office Action, at page 2, item 3, the Examiner rejected claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. §102 (b) as being anticipated by Groe. The reasons for the rejection are set forth in the Office Action and therefore not repeated. Applicants traverse this rejection and respectfully request reconsideration.

In the Office Action, at page 2, item 4, the Examiner also rejected claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. §102 (b) as being anticipated by Weber. The reasons for the rejection are set forth in the Office Action and therefore not repeated. Applicants traverse this rejection and respectfully request reconsideration.

Claim 8 has been cancelled.

CONCLUSION:

In accordance with the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot, and further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the cited art. Thus, there being no further

outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.

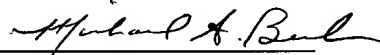
If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such issues.

If there are any underpayments or overpayments of fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge and/or credit the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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